is concerned, when Mr. Morarji Desai was the Prime Minister the smuggling was less because there was no activity to detect smuggling.

*363. [*The questioners (Shri Dhuleshwar Meena and Shri Bhagatram Manhar) were absent. For answer* vide *col* 34-35 infra].

Demand for Uttarkhand State

*364. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a persistent demand for a separate State of 'Uttarakhand' from the people of hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether Government have considered this demand; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and by when a separate hill State called 'Uttarakhand' is likely to be formed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Such demands for separate State arise on account of economic imbalances. The Government of India is of the view that such imbalances in a particular State or region should be tackled through the mechanism of planning and development. Creation of a separate State may not be the answer to the problem.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAY: Madam, the answer is very unsatisfactory. The reply of the Minister to parts (b) and (c) of the question is that the mechanism of planning and development should provide an answer for the development of Uttarakhand. But the mechanism of planning and development has been there since 1952. Till now this mechanism has not provided any answer to the poverty and unemployment prevailing in this region. In the last part of the answer, it has been stated that creation of a separate state would not be the answer. If the first is not the answer, then what could be the answer?

Madam, Uttarakhand is another name for poverty. The youth in that region are migrating increasingly, leaving their old parents there. I am told that when old people die in uttarakhand, they have got to search for young people for performing cremation of the dead. This is the condition there. Therefore, may I ask the Minister whether he would consider seriously the problems of Uttarrakhand and concede at least in principle the demand for a separate state?

Secondly, may I ask whether the Government has got any proposal for bifurcating or trifurcating Uttar Pradesh because Uttar Pradesh is too big a State?

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Why are you worried about Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTTR OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): What is the harm if it is so?

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASAMY: I am only helping the Uttar Pradesh people... Because the present State of Uttar Pradesh is unmanageable politically, administratively and economically.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: You first, manage your own State well.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASAMY: May I ask the Home Minister whether he would consider the formation of three States out of one Uttar Pradesh now, to be followed by two States in Bihar?

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: I categorically say that there is no such thinking in the Central Government either to trifurcate or bifurcate it into three States or two States, nor

is it the thinking of thinking of the national Janata Party, as far as I know. I do not know how the hon. Member has given this proposal.

As regards the first part of his question, there is no denial of the fact that economic backwardness of the area is one of the basic problems for this particular agitation there. The Government of India and the State Government have effectively taken certain steps to see that economic upliftment of the tribal people is there. The fact is that in the Fifth Plan the total allocation was Rs. 205 crores, in the Sixth Plan it was Rs. 570 crores and now in the Seventh Plan it is Rs. 1075 crores. So various schemes are there. It is a long list and if you want I can narrate them. There are about 12 special schemes which are being implemented there in the nine districts of U.P. I think in course of time the agitation as it is today will die down because development has taken place there. I do not think that the demand for a State can be considered within the framework of the present set-up of U.P., I am confident that if the economic development continues, the agitation which is now there will die down.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: May I ask whether he will consider to form a sort of hill region for this area, a separate hill region at least, and give them autonomy like my friend, Mr. Buta Singh, has just now conceded to our Gorkha friends in West Bengal? Will he consider this proposal? Secondly, I would like to ask him again whether U.P. and Bihar will continue like this for ever. They are a sort of unmanageable giants in the administrative system of this country. I want to know whether any thinking has been done in regard to the reorganization of these two giant States so that they may become manageable at least administratively.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: His own party is not able to manage his State. That is why he is ready.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: I have already said that this question cuts across political parties.

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: There is no thinking on the part of the Government of India to reorganize either Bihar or U.P. States. Efficient Governments are there. He has the experience of those days when the Janata rule was there when they might have had some such thinking. But we do not have such thinking. As regards creation of a Hill Council, it is absolutely a matter of the State Government. There is no proposal from the State Government and we don't think they are considering such a thing.

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Madam, I am surprised at the question. Why should people try to create troubles when there are no troubles? May I inform the honourable Member that when this question was posed, about Eastern U.P. and Western U.P. by some Members of Parliament, to our great Home Minister, Pandit Gobind Ballabh Pant, he said, "U.P. is one, U.P. should remain one, and so long as U.P. remains one India will remain one."

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Why not make all Hindi States as one?

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Don't worry, Mr. Swamy. You are crossing every border.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Now he has decided to go to the South.

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Madam, with all respect and humility at my command, I can assure him-I belong to that State. I belong to that region if there is some imbalance, it can be met by the planning process. So, please do not

convert it into a demand for statehood and do not take recourse to that process. Therefore, may I request the honourable Minister to energize the planning process in that region so that even if there is some lurking backwardness, it can be removed?

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: Madam, with regard to the allocation of funds and expenditure, as I see it from the record, even in 1985-86 the outlay was Rs. 177 crores and the expenditure was Rs. 187 crores That itself proves that the Government of U.P. is taking very special care about development. But I take the suggestion of the honourable Member and we shall see that energization of planning is there.

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, यह उत्तर प्रदेश में जो पर्वतीय इलाके हैं–9 जिले हैं और 2 कमिश्नरियां आती हैं, करीब-करीब 1952 से ही पर्वतीय इलाकों की उन्नति के लिए, वहां की जो आवागमन की असुविधा है, क्षेत्रीय असंतुलन है, आर्थिक असमानता है, इसके लिए मांग चल रही है। कुछ लोग इसको उत्तराखण्ड की मांग के रूप में रखते हैं तो कुछ लोग पूर्वांचल की मांग के रूप में तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि यह जो पिछले तीन साल से लगातार आन्दोलन चल रहा है। इस आन्दोलन में लोगों ने सत्याग्रह भी किया, घेराव भी किया, धरने भी दिए और दिल्ली में आकर वोट क्लब पर धरना भी दिया।

तो उत्तराखण्ड की मांग के अलावा इस क्षेत्र के विकास के लिए उन लोगों ने आपको क्या-क्या मांग-पत्र दिए, उनकी मुख्य मांगें क्या है ?

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: Madam, their demand is for a separate State and, as the honourable Member has said, they have also demanded about various developmental schemes I do not have the details with me, I will lay them on the Table of the House. As to the popularity of the demand, Mr. Gurupadaswamy has said that the demand has been coming up from 1954. In 1980-85 they fought and elected only one Member from there. That itself proves that the people of that area do not subscribe to the idea and an agitation has not been built up as it is being projected here. I think too much discussion will rather encourage them. We should discourage such activities.

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : महोदय जो मूल प्रश्न था उसमें 'ख' में दिया गया है कि क्या सरकार ने इस मांग पर विचार किया है और यदि हां तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है। मूल प्रश्न में भी उत्तर नहीं दिया गया है और मेरे सप्लीमेंट्री प्रश्न का भी उत्तर नहीं दिया गया है। तो आप कम से कम मंत्री जी को हिदायत दें कि वे तैयार होकर आया करें। मैं चाहता हूं कि आप कृपया इस पर अपनी व्यवस्था दें।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Do you have the demand details given by those people who came?

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: I said, I would lay them on the Table of the House. I do not have the particulars. I conceded to him. I will send it to you.

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Those particulars should have been here, Madam. Kindly go through parts (b) and (c) of the question and the reply The question is:

"(b) whether Government have considered this demand; and

"(c) if so, what are the details thereof..."

The reply is incomplete, and the reply to my supplementary is also incomplete. The Minister is showing his ignorance.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: The Minister is not up to date.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The main question is whether they have asked for a separate state. About a separate state you have asked for the details. About that he said that they are not considering the demand. Other details he is going to place on the Table of the House.

SHRI DEBA PRASAD RAY: A similar movement has been going on in the northern part of Bengal comprising Jalpaiguri and Cooch Behar districts. That is also called Uttarakhand. It has been persisting for the last three, four years. It is spearheaded by the local people called Rajbansies who feel that they are *socially ill-treated and economically* backward. I feel that in the light of the recent achievement by Subhash Ghising of having a District Council formed in Darjeeling, this would embolden them further to intensify their movement in Jalpaiguri and Cooch Behar. I would like to know from the hon. Minister if the Government have taken note of this movement, have taken cognizance of this movement and whether some measures are being proposed by the Government to contain this movement so that there is no slogan of separatism in Bengal again.

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: Madam, as I said, in various parts of the country, in economically backward areas such movements are there, and we have always taken corrective steps by giving special plan assistance. The movement which the hon. Member has just now mentioned is known to us. I would need a separate notice to answer this. This is quite a sensitive issue. But the suggestion given by him is noted, and we shall take care. It will be very difficult to say elaborately on it without proper notice.

Export of Iron Ore to Japan

*365. SHRI SHANKER SINH VEGHELA:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN†:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is getting four per cent lower price for the last few months from Japan for its iron ore and that these prices are barely two-thirds of what they use to be in 1982-83;

(b) if so, what are the facts in this regard and its impact on the mining industry in Goa and other places; and

(c) what steps have been taken to improve the iron ore exports position in the international market and to reduce overdependence on a single bulk market like Japan and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Price realization on iron ore fines exported to Japan from Bailadila mines, which represent the price settlement trend, during the current fiscal year in terms of US$ is lower by 4 per cent than in 1987-88 due to decline in prices of iron ore in the international market. There has been no price reduction on exports of iron ore lumps. As compared to the price realised on these lumps and fines in 1982-83, the price currently being realised in terms of US$ is lower by 28.72 per cent and 32.56 per cent respectively. Lower realization from iron ore exports coupled with the increase in cost of

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Pramod Mahajan.